

## THOMPSON LOSES TUBE GRAFT TRAIL

Lawyer for Dock Concern  
Defies Moss with: "I  
Refuse to Answer."

WHY GAYNOR SHIFTED  
REMAINS UNSOLVED

Vanderbilt and Belmont May Be  
Asked To-day How City Officials  
Were Won Over.

The Thompson Committee's hunt for the man who was credited with having sufficient influence to swing a waterfront deal between the city and the Brooklyn Dock Company to the advantage of the latter ended yesterday—temporarily anyway—when the committee hit a stone wall.

Mr. Auerbach refused to answer the questions put to him by Frank Moss, claiming the matter in question was not germane to the committee's inquiry.

Mr. Auerbach made a statement to this effect and then added: "A suggestion was made for additional counsel during the negotiations. It was unfavorably received and the matter was dropped there."

Lawyer Refuses to Answer.

After several questions were asked, Mr. Auerbach admitted the suggestion was made to him, but he wouldn't say who made it or who was suggested.

"Who was the additional counsel?"

"I decline to answer."

"What was the amount of compensation mentioned?"

"Same answer—decline to answer."

"To whom did you communicate this information?"

"Same answer."

"Did you ever see Mayor Mitchell?"

"Here Mr. Auerbach abandoned his stereotyped answers and asked if this was the last question, promising to answer it if it was. Mr. Moss wouldn't tell him."

"Harkness testified yesterday," said Mr. Moss, "that some one had seen Mayor Mitchell and mentioned a certain name to the Mayor. I merely desire to trace this individual who intervened. That is why I ask that question. I don't intend to give any names into this matter."

Mr. Moss then reframed his question, and asked:

"Did you ever talk with Mayor Mitchell on any phase of this matter?"

"Is that the last question?" asked Mr. Auerbach.

"Up to this point, yes."

Mr. Auerbach again refused to answer. He then left the stand. Before leaving the room he said:

"In answer to your last question, and this is going to be my last answer, whether that is your last question or not, I will answer no. I didn't see the Mayor."

Libel Actions Reynolds's Threat.

Senator Thompson said that the committee would take up the dock company matter in executive session to-day.

Ex-Senator William H. Reynolds, whose name was connected with the dock company matter, was called to the stand at Wednesday's session of the committee, in an interview at his office yesterday, said that he had instructed his lawyers to bring libel actions against the men responsible for linking his name with the dock company matter.

"It's a damnable lie," exclaimed Mr. Reynolds. "It's most outrageous, and I intend to spend my last dollar, if necessary, to prosecute those responsible."

Senator Thompson said that if any man in his town had been mentioned in the way ex-Senator Reynolds had been he would be clamoring for a chance to be heard before the committee.

"But Senator Reynolds hasn't come here, but the witness stand is waiting for him if he does."

Fairfax Landstreet, chairman of the Board of Directors of the dock company, was the man who testified regarding ex-Senator Reynolds.

Another witness yesterday was Francis de C. Sullivan, a director of the Interborough. As on the previous day, he was asked why the late Mayor Gaynor and Controller Prendergast changed their attitude and votes on the dual subway situation in favor of the Interborough.

Interborough Man Quizzed.

Mr. Moss read extracts from the Mayor's public speeches, letters and magazine articles attacking the Interborough and its officials for their stand in the subway situation. Then he asked Mr. Sullivan:

"How did you induce the Mayor to eat his words in public?"

"Why do you ask me that?" said Mr. Sullivan.

"That you should know what changed his mind," said Mr. Moss. "You represent the second largest stockholder in the Interborough. You are a director. You are a man of business. You ought to know what was done to beat down the opposition of these two strong men, Mayor Gaynor and Controller Prendergast. You have said that you would have given Mr. Belmont \$250,000 bonus instead of \$150,000. What was it for?"

"Because he had handled a difficult proposition."

"Didn't you want to know how their opposition was removed, how it was done? Were you afraid it might be embarrassing if you asked?"

"No, certainly not."

Mr. Moss then asked him would ask every Interborough official how the city officials were won over.

At the close of the session Mr. Moss exhibited a check for \$2,500 made out to the late Andrew Freedman in favor of Frank Hedy, president of the Interborough. It was dated November 7, 1910. On its face it bore this explanatory note: "On account of twenty acres participation Gun Hill Road and White Plains Avenue."

August Belmont and Cornelius Vanderbilt will be called by the Thompson Committee to-day to tell what they know about the dual subway contracts.

Mr. Vanderbilt was called and sworn yesterday, but not examined. He will go on the stand in the afternoon. Mr. Belmont will be a witness this morning.

CONGRESS WATCHED  
ON PREPAREDNESS

Security League to Start Campaign "Rogues' Gallery."

A "rogues' gallery" of members of Congress, showing their records of speeches and votes on questions pertaining to preparedness, will be prepared and published by the National Security League. A resolution for this purpose was passed yesterday by the executive committee. It is proposed to make this available campaign material

for or against the members this fall.

A public meeting of the league was held yesterday afternoon at the Astor, at which J. Bernard Walker and Henry Reuter, after a violent attack on Secretary of the Navy Daniels, demanded that he be forced to resign. He denounced the present Administration as a "Southern Administration."

J. C. Sprigg, in the audience, took exception to this, saying that the Wilson government was no Southern Administration, as Wilson has "betrayed" North, East South and West alike. He also said there was no decent Southerner in the Cabinet except Attorney General Gregory.

After giving a technical exposition of the weaknesses of the navy, picturing it being destroyed by the German fleet, Mr. Walker introduced a resolution demanding of Congress legislation to put the navy in second place in the Atlantic and first in the Pacific, and that its personnel be kept up to sufficient strength to man it.

The mention of the name of Theodore Roosevelt, particularly in connection with the efficiency of the fleet in 1905, when he sent it around the world, called forth long applause.

SAYS SON GIVES  
AWAY HIS AUTOS

Mother Sees James Humphrey as Human Christmas Tree.

James Humphrey, a young man with much money and heir to more, suffers from auto-intoxication of a peculiar form, according to his mother, Mrs. Augusta V. Partridge, of 188 West Fifty-eighth Street. Yesterday she told Justice Delehanty in the Supreme Court that besides being addicted to liquor her son has a habit of buying automobiles. Every now and then he purchases a car, and when he sees one that he likes more he buys that and gives the other one away.

Mrs. Partridge also complained that Humphrey pays his chauffeur \$50 a week, which she thinks is 100 per cent too much. Her petition asks that a jury and justice of the Supreme Court hear her story, after which she feels sure they will decide that her son needs a committee. The matter will be heard in the Supreme Court, probably next week.

Humphrey is thirty years old. He has never been compelled to work any harder than he spends his allowance of about \$1,000 a month. He is going to contest the proceeding. His training has been such, he said, as to cause him to take life easy, and although he has never learned any business, he has thought of buying a small hotel and managing it. He attributes his trouble at home to his step-father.

"My step-father has no occupation and never has had," said Humphrey in answer to the petition of his mother. "He is urging my mother to take this action because he does not like me. I have tried to urge my mother to drop him, for he lives entirely on money which he gets from her. He went to Paris a few years ago and got into jail in France for not having money enough to pay his bills."

The auto-intoxication allegation is denied by Humphrey. "It is just the opposite with me," he said. "My health is good and my mind is wonderfully clear just because I have this automobile habit."

PRIEST'S QUERY STARTS  
WRANGLE IN BROADWAY

Reserves Arrest Preacher of  
Secular Society.

"You're a hell of a man to be wearing clerical garb," was the reply of the Rev. Herbert J. Bader, retired chaplain of the 9th Infantry, U. S. A., said he received when he asked Irving Meyerowitz, twenty-seven, for the authority on which Meyerowitz, a preacher for the New Secular Society, based the accusations he hurled against Christianity to 600 people in Herald Square last night.

The priest insisted upon an answer. Patrolman Gorman failed to settle the argument. So he placed Meyerowitz under arrest. But the crowd in answer to the "Let's stick" cried by Henry L. Browning, twenty-five, of 323 West Thirty-fourth Street, interfered with the patrolman.

After the reserves from the West Thirtieth Street station, in answer to a riot call, had scattered the crowd Meyerowitz and Browning were taken to night court. Meyerowitz refused to take the usual oath, but gave one to tell the truth "on my honor." He told Father Bader's charge. He told Magistrate Groh that the Secular Society had been preaching for sixty-two years on any subject deemed fit, but particularly against superstition. He was discharged and was carried from the courtroom on the shoulders of a series of disturbances at Broadway and Thirty-sixth Street last night. The Salvation Army complained that it was prevented from holding its regular meeting by the talking of Meyerowitz and his associates and by the crowd listening to some pro-German speakers.

Denies Tapping Phone Wires.

Burns testified that he was unable to get the evidence that Mr. Egan wanted, so the matter was turned over to the police. Burns said he never tapped a telephone wire in his life and never listened in on the Seymour wire.

At his own request, Frederick Seymour took the stand to explain how Morton Sultz was allowed to have desk room in the Seymour offices on account of the recommendation which O. B. Phillips, former vice-chairman of the State Progressive committee gave him.

"Two of these letters from the Humboldt Fibre Company, speak of getting 'grapevine' information as to what J. P. Morgan & Co. are going to order," said the District Attorney.

"Now what does that mean?"

"I suppose it means the method of getting information of brokers from day to day and then passing it on from one to the other; that's the impression I have of its meaning," said Mr. Seymour.

"I never heard the expression before it was used in the Humboldt letter of February 7 to O. B. Phillips."

"In your letter signed by you and addressed to the Humboldt Company of February 14, you said: 'For your confidential information I may add that J. P. Morgan & Co. are authorized to buy 400 tons of cotton linters up to 400 tons of cotton linters a month.' If you are in a position to increase your capacity to that extent I will negotiate with them for the entire amount." How did you know that J. P. Morgan & Co. wanted to buy 400 tons a month?"

Found Door Unlocked.

"By the way," said Burns, "I forgot to state that when we first entered the Belgian Relief offices we found the door leading from the first entrance room in Seymour's office unlocked on Mr. Seymour's side, due to the fact, I think, that stenographers in the offices had been friendly and had been passing back and forth."

Burns testified that he found the letters which his stenographer later copied on top of the desk apparently occupied by Phillips, although he said he believed it was used by Sultz, De Witt and Frederick Seymour also.

"I think Mr. Seymour will tell you that we never took a scrap of paper from his office nor searched his desk," said Burns.

"It might be informal but I would like to ask the Seymours if they have any contrary statement to make," said District Attorney Swann turning in the direction of Frederick and John C. Seymour, who were seated close to the witness stand.

"No papers were taken from my desk," replied Frederick Seymour quickly.

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## DENIES TAPPING WIRE FOR MORGAN

Burns Admits Breaking  
Into Law Office and  
Copying Papers.

SAYS HE WAS TRACING  
ARMS DEAL LEAK

Didn't "Listen In" on Phone, He  
Declares—Seymour Explains  
to Swann.

After signing a waiver of immunity William J. Burns, the detective, yesterday told Chief Magistrate McAdoo, at the John Doe proceedings into the tapping of Seymour & Seymour's telephone wires, that he had been engaged by Martin Egan, of J. P. Morgan's office, to locate the "leak" in Morgan's munitions transactions.

"Mr. Egan told me," said Burns, "that a man named Morton Sultz in the office of Seymour & Seymour had called on a corporation in New York and had endeavored either to sell information or to get the corporation to give him commission for the sale of some of their commodities on the representation that he was to get the information in the Morgan offices."

"Mr. Egan also told me that Sultz was associated with an O. B. Phillips, another man by the name of De Witt and another by the name of Hills. I learned that Sultz was under indictment for passing bad checks, and tried to shadow him, but my men reported that he would frequently run half a block to escape them, and so I determined to install a detectaphone in the offices of Seymour & Seymour."

Burns told how, with the cooperation of George L. Mortimer, president of the Equitable Building Corporation, he engaged the rooms of the Belgian Relief Commission, next door to the Seymours.

Found Door Unlocked.

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